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14. ABSTRACT This project, sponsored by the DoD Legacy Resource Management Program, provided continuing support for the Central Command Historical/Cultural Advisory Group (CCHCAG) in its long-term efforts to provide cultural heritage awareness, education, and expertise to U.S. military personnel deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan. A key component of this effort was to provide explicit training on Cultural Property Protection (CPP) in zones of armed conflict under the terms of the 1954 Hague Convention that was ratified by the U.S. Congress in 2008.						
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LEGACY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Final Technical Report Project No. 06-324:

**Heritage Forward: The Central Command
Historical-Cultural Advisory Group**

FY2011-2012

Submitted: 22-OCT-2013

Introduction

The Legacy-sponsored "In-Theater Heritage Training Program" has been the first response from the Department of Defense for developing an institutionalized program to address concerns about cultural property protection (CPP) planning and training for deploying U.S. military personnel. Since 2006, this Legacy-funded project has developed CPP awareness playing cards, Iraq and Afghanistan heritage reference websites, heritage briefings, replica and hardened archaeological sites for realistic training, underwater archaeology awareness training, bi-lingual heritage briefings for presentations in the Middle East, on-site training for US personnel on Middle Eastern archaeological sites, and partnerships for developing GIS data for archaeological site planning. The project has generated positive publicity for DoD around the world. Since this project was undertaken, the US Senate has ratified the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The Legacy In-Theater Project has been the lead initiative in terms of positioning the Department of Defense to be able to easily demonstrate its efforts to be in compliance with this treaty. This project is also in the process of linking with the US Army Green Warrior initiative as part of mission support for a more sustainable deployable force. Given the success of this proof-of-concept approach, the overall cultural heritage training initiative is working to establish permanent funding and institutionalization of the program within the Department of Defense. In the meantime, it is

appropriate to continue the global visibility of project accomplishments especially by demonstrating the power of DoD partnerships. In addition, the project can improve and move forward by continuing academic partnerships, by developing cultural property curriculum and supporting materials for professional military education, by providing GIS heritage mapping products, and by using a scenario-based lessons-learned teaching approach. The Legacy In-Theater Project is the only DoD entity that has been able to establish a meaningful and productive partnership with an academic organization composed of social scientists, the Archaeology Institute of America (AIA). It is important that representatives of the US DoD maintain this relationship by attending their annual meetings and by making the partnership visible on the web. Continued support of the Advisory Group (now termed Action Group) and its annual meetings enables these heritage efforts to continue to be implemented forward, especially in Afghanistan, helping our Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines avoid serious compromise to their missions that result from failures to read the heritage landscape and act accordingly.

The purpose of this project was to continue support for the Combatant Command Historical-Cultural Action Group in its efforts to provide heritage awareness, education and expertise to deploying personnel in the CENTCOM Area of Responsibility in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Egypt through a series of training products, outreach tools, and workshop venues. As a secondary objective, however, it was hoped that these CENTCOM-specific products and tools could serve as “prototypes” for the development of similar products for use by other Combatant Commands operating in different parts of the world. The ultimate success of this effort is reflected in a formal name change and acronym change for this CPP training awareness initiative in 2011. We became the **Combatant Command Cultural Heritage Action Group** with the new

acronym of **CCHAG**. For the sake of consistency, however, we will use the original name and acronym throughout the remainder of this report.

This report summarizes the final Legacy products developed by the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) at Colorado State University as part of a Legacy Resource Management Program proposal developed by Dr. Laurie Rush (Cultural Resource Program Manager at Fort Drum, NY) entitled “Heritage Forward: The Central Command Historical-Cultural Advisory Group” (Legacy Project No. 06-324).

Approach

The CENTCOM Historical-Cultural Advisory Group (CCHCAG) has been one of the successful outcomes of the Legacy-funded In-Theater Heritage Training project. With cooperation from Central Command Joint Engineers and participation from all of the services, this Action Group has mobilized support from the Defense Environmental International Cooperation Program as well as from the American Academy in Rome in addition to in-kind support from installations representing all of the services. As a result, CCHCAG has initiated planning and education programs that utilize coalition exercises as cultural landscape teaching opportunities that can serve as models for other Combatant Commands. Perhaps more importantly, the CCHCAG is the only entity within the Department of Defense that has established a successful and productive partnership with an academic organization comprised primarily of social scientists. This partnership is with the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA). The proposed project plans to further develop this partnership by using the internet to inform subject matter experts of areas where DoD needs heritage information and would develop a platform to streamline interaction. In addition, the AIA has offered to establish a network of subject matter expert regional instructional support for ROTC cadets. This network is only one

example of the potential for developing the partnership into a mechanism for mobilizing reach back capability and expertise no matter where in the world the US military may face a challenge related to the heritage landscape. The proposed funding would enable CCHCAG members to attend the upcoming annual meeting of the AIA in San Antonio, Texas (January, 2011). The San Antonio location is ideal for celebrating the partnership because of the proximity of multiple military installations where personnel have already expressed interest and support for the CCHCAG mission and goals. The proposed project funding would also enable CCHCAG members to continue to participate in coalition exercises, to respond to requests for support for contingency operations, and to continue to hold annual meetings.

The CCHCAG and the entire In-Theater Heritage Training project is the result of a long-term, effective, and award-winning partnership between the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML) at Colorado State University (CSU) and the Fort Drum Environmental Division's Cultural Resource Management Program. For this Heritage Forward project, CEMML/CSU was responsible for ensuring non-DoD subject matter attendance at the CCHCAG Annual Meeting/Workshop, for summarizing the workshop proceedings into a recommendation document for the Other Combatant Commands, and for revising, editing, proofing, and vetting DoD heritage materials available on the AIA partnership website. In addition, CEMML/CSU was responsible for completing geo-rectification of coordinate information for selected archaeological sites from Ball's Gazetteer of Afghanistan Archaeological Sites. This information would be used for CENTCOM's environmental planning maps as well as for the development of Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) "no-strike" maps.

CEMML Product Development

As part of this larger CCHCAG effort, a total of five (5) products were developed by CEMML. These are as follows (followed by the Legacy “product type” in parentheses):

- Product 1: Partnership Website with Archaeological Institute of America (Website/Webpage)
- Product 2: Articulation of CCHAG Practices for Other COCOMs (Prototype)
- Product 3: Georectified Heritage Planning Map for Afghanistan (GIS Data)
- Product 4: Development and Implementation of Heritage Curriculum for ROTC (Outreach Tool)
- Product 5: CCHCAG Annual Meeting Summary Outcomes (Management Plan).

Each of these will be discussed in turn in the sub-sections below.

Product 1: Partnership Website with Archaeological Institute of America

As a means of strengthening the partnering relationship between CCHCAG and the AIA membership interested in the issue of Cultural Property Protection and the military, it was decided to develop web products that could be linked from our respective parent web sites. The first step in this process was to assist the AIA in the creation of a new interest group within the AIA dedicated to CPP issues and the military in areas of the world experiencing armed conflict. A few AIA archaeologists had already engaged with the U.S. Department of Defense over the destruction of cultural property during U.S. military campaigns in Iraq and Afghanistan so the timing was right to develop a more formal interest group on these issues within the organization. In this way, the Cultural Heritage by AIA-Military Panel (CHAMP) was created as a unit of the Archaeological Institute of America “dedicated to improving awareness among deploying

military personnel regarding the culture and history of local communities in host countries and war zones. Education and training of military personnel is a critical step in preserving and safeguarding historical sites and cultural artifacts and will promote greater understanding and improved relations with local communities” (CHAMP website). The CCHCAG assisted in this endeavor due to our close relationship at the time with USCENTCOM and a range of CPP training and awareness products that we were developing for these countries.

The next step in strengthening this relationship was assistance in the AIA’s development of a CHAMP web page embedded in the larger AIA web site. The page can be found at the following URL: <http://aiamilitarypanel.org/> and the home page is depicted in Figure 1 below.

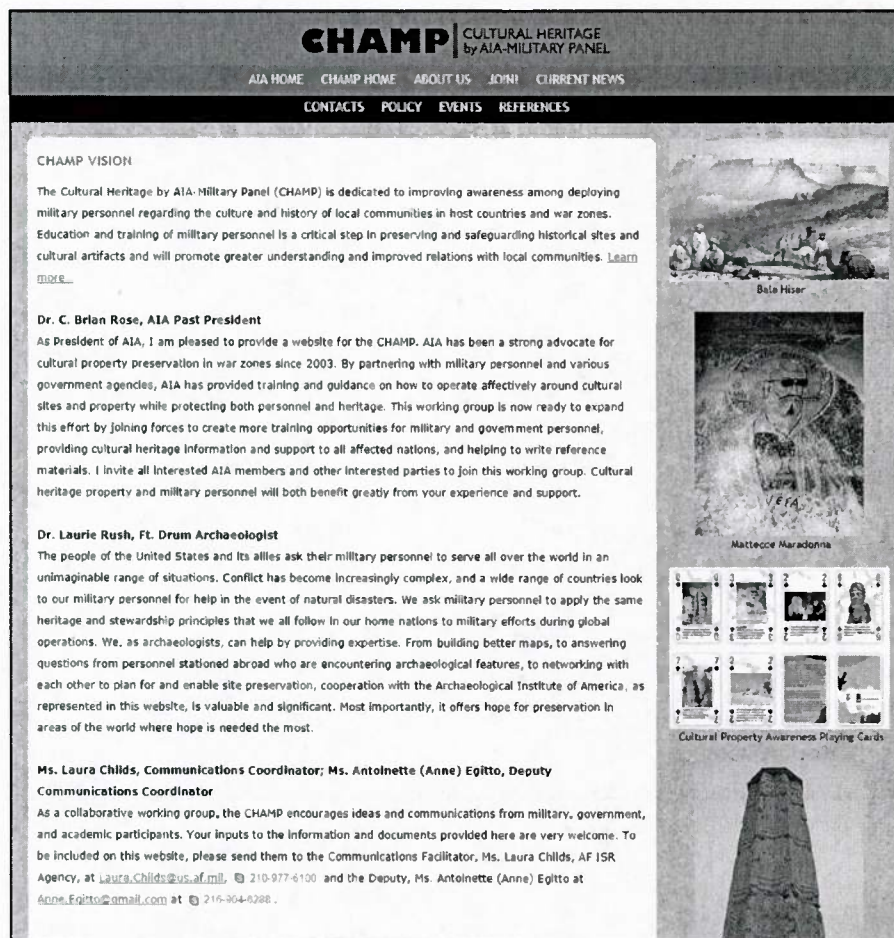


Figure 1. CHAMP web page on the AIA web site.

As a reciprocal gesture, the CCHCAG directors also developed a CCHCAG-CHAMP partnership page on the CCHCAG web page accessible at the following URL:
<http://cchag.org/index.php/partnerships/cchag-and-champ/>. A recent iteration of the page is depicted in Figure 2 below.



Figure 2. CCHCAG-CHAMP partnership page on the CCHCAG web site.

A key aspect of this partnership and the reasoning behind the two web linkages is the active sharing of information related to Cultural Property Protection and the U.S. military, particularly in countries of most interest to the AIA membership. This has been reinforced by joint memberships in each other's organizations, and of course, by CCHCAG presence at the AIA annual meetings on a regular basis where we have consistently organized a symposia or a workshop on CPP issues.

Product 2: Articulation of CCHCAG Practices for Other COCOMs

As mentioned previously, a secondary purpose of the “Heritage Forward” project was to use the CENTCOM CPP training and awareness products as *prototypes* for similar training products applicable to other Combatant Commands (COCOMs) operating around the world. These include European Command (USEUCOM), Northern Command (USNORTHCOM), Africa Command (USAFRICOM), Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM), and Pacific Command (USPACOM). CCHCAG thus embarked on a campaign to advertise our technical support capabilities to other COCOMs, with special emphasis on USAFRICOM, USSOUTHCOM, and USPACOM. This expansion in our geographic focus was captured in our 2011 name/acronym change, mentioned previously, to the Combatant Command Cultural heritage Action Group (CCHAG), and is also reflected in our current CCHAG charted and Strategic Plan, both of which can be found on our current web portal at the following URL:

<http://cchag.org/index.php/about/mission-vision-stakeholders/>

In fact, our current web portal has been designed and populated with this broad global focus in mind such that this particular product of the “heritage Forward” project was been perhaps its most successful long-term outcome. This is reflected on all of the information now contained in, and continuously updated on, the CCHAG web portal (see URL **<http://www.cchag.org>**).

Product 3: Georectified Heritage Planning Map for Afghanistan

This task was initiated using funds awarded through the “Heritage Forward” project Legacy Resource Management Program but additional funding provided by the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command (ACC) was required to complete the task.

The purpose of the task was to provide a Quality Assurance/Quality Control review of archaeological site location point data for known sites in Afghanistan for use by DoD

personnel in avoiding or reducing impacts to cultural properties from military activities. Once the accuracy of the point locations was verified on DoD imagery, the analysis continued by locating the precise boundaries of the archaeological sites in question and delimiting them with a polygon based on published descriptions and drawings of the sites. The geographic breadth of this study within Afghanistan is limited by the availability of high resolution Buckeye Imagery/LIDAR System developed by the Army Geospatial Center (AGC) of the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center's Topographic Engineering Center (ERDC-TEC) in collaboration with George Mason University.

The resulting report was published by the USAF/ACC Project Orchid Series in December of 2011 for limited distribution as it was deemed "For Official Use Only" by the U.S. Air Force, due to the sensitive nature of its contents. The full reference is as follows:

Sherman, Stephen A. and James A. Zeidler
2011 *Quality Assurance/Quality Control of Archaeological Site Location Data in Afghanistan*. Prepared by the Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands, Colorado State University, and Geo-Marine, Inc. for the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District. December 2011. Plano, TX: Geo-Marine, Inc.

Product 4: Development and Implementation of Heritage Curriculum for ROTC

This task was also initiated using funds awarded through the "Heritage Forward" project Legacy Resource Management Program but was completed with additional funding provided by the U.S. Air Force Air Combat Command (ACC). This initiative adopted a two-pronged approach aimed at (a) providing basic CPP instruction (PowerPoint slides and accompanying notes) for incorporation into different levels of Army ROTC curriculum; and (b)

initiating a campaign to encourage professional archaeologists, historians, and classical scholars working in areas of armed conflict to provide volunteer lectures to their local ROTC units on the topic of Cultural Property Protection, and at the same time, deliver formal lectures on the nature of their research..

The first of these approaches was initially achieved by developing a set of ten (10) CPP slides in the portion of the ROTC curriculum dealing with the Law of Warfare, in which the issue of Cultural Property Protection is addressed with reference to the U.S. ratification (in 2008) of the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (see Figure 3). This was accomplished in direct consultation with Mr. Eric Tartaglia,

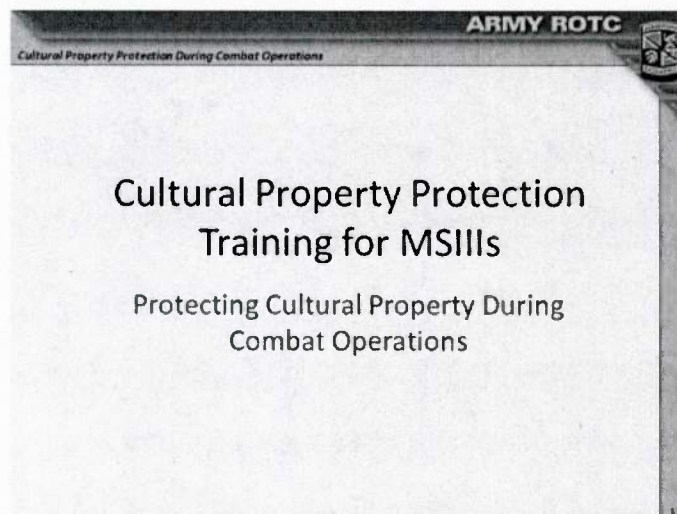


Figure 3. Opening PowerPoint slide (in standard ROTC format) of CPP instruction for Army ROTC cadets.

Instructional Systems Specialist with the U.S. Army Cadet Command at Fort Knox, KY.

Consultation is on-going and CCHCAG expects to have an even greater presence of CPP information in ROTC curriculum as that program undergoes extensive revision and re-design in the immediate future. Current CCHCAG support information can be found on the CCHCAG web portal at the following URL: <http://cchag.org/index.php/services/cpp-training-for-rotc/>.

The second approach was aimed both at enhancing the ROTC training in cultural property protection issues through occasional volunteered academic lectures, and at promoting a higher level of engagement with the U.S. military by academic professionals who work in conflict zones. This type of academic engagement was actually spear-headed by Dr. C. Brian Rose, past-president of the Archaeological Institute of America (see photograph in Figure 2), but our initiative was aimed at considerably broadening academic participation throughout the United States. To that end, we developed a series of tools for academic professionals to use as they become more familiar with the U.S. military generally, and their local ROTC units specifically. This included a six-page brochure introducing them to the idea of developing ROTC lectures (see Figure 4). More information on this program can be found on the CCHCAG web portal at the following URL: <http://cchag.org/index.php/services/cpp-training-for-rotc/sme-guest-lectures/>.

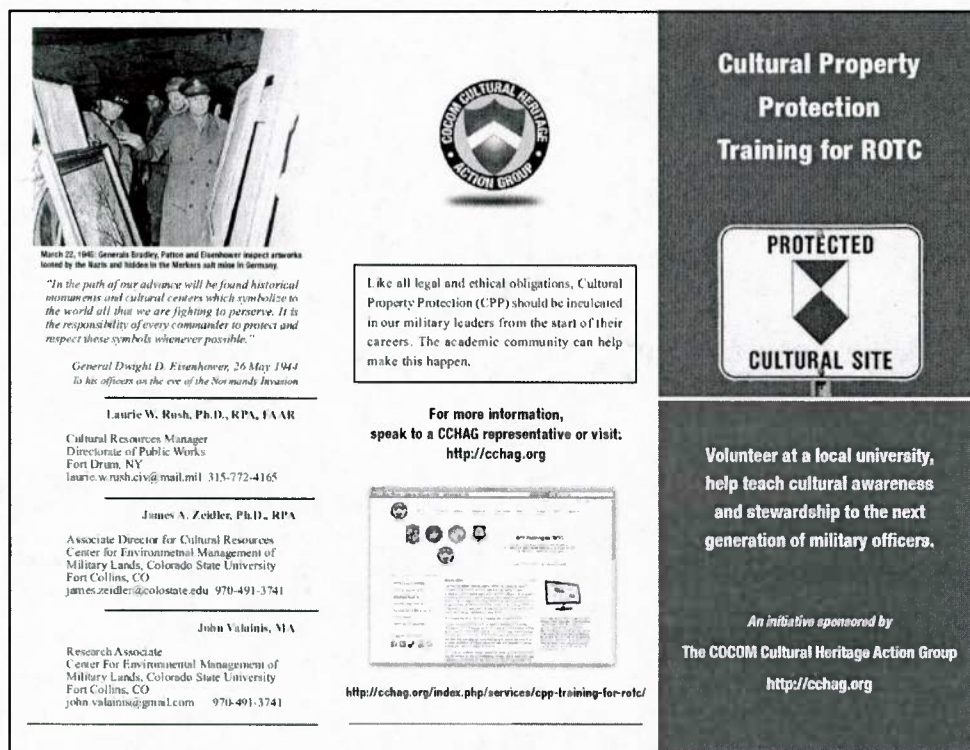


Figure 4. Front side of a six-panel brochure advertising the ROTC Lecture Program.

Product 5: CCHCAG Annual Meeting Summary Outcomes

As part of the “Heritage Forward” project, CCHCAG members Laurie Rush and James Zeidler organized, moderated, and prepared summaries of the group’s annual meetings, which after conducting them at CENTCOM headquarters (Tampa, FL) in previous years, were moved to the Washington, D.C. area more recently. In 2011, the 3rd Annual CCHCAG Annual Meeting, was held at the Inter-American Defense Board offices at 2600 16th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., from 15-16 September 2011. Informal minutes of that meeting are in possession of Rush and Zeidler and a PowerPoint file of their slide presentation for that meeting (see Figure 5) is available upon request.

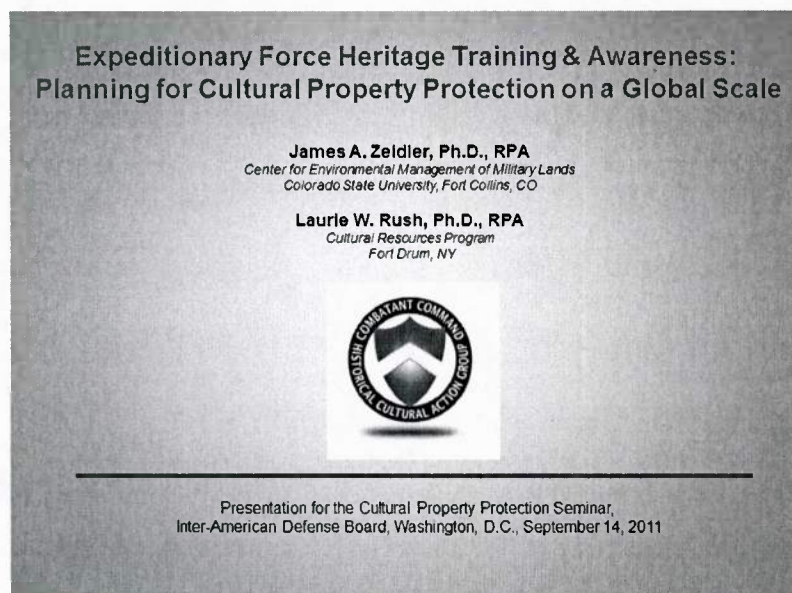


Figure 5. Opening PowerPoint slide of Zeidler/Rush lead presentation at 2011 annual CCHCAG Meeting.

In subsequent years, the annual CCHCAG meetings have stayed in the Washington, D.C. area and are consistently held in the month of September. For an online summary of the 4th annual meeting held in September of 2012 at the Key Bridge Marriott Hotel in Arlington, VA, see the following URL: <http://cchag.org/index.php/cchag-4th-annual-meeting/>.

Military Benefit

The CCHCAG has demonstrated the value of cultural heritage awareness education, planning, and training to successful stability operations. The activities of the CCHCAG have resulted in awareness materials being distributed to over 100,000 deploying personnel and this awareness has resulted in the saving multiple sites in Iraq from inadvertent damage. The CCHCAG played an instrumental role in developing the Historical Cultural chapter of the new Central Command Environmental Regulations CC Environmental Guidance Regulation 200-2 that offer environmental enforcement capability for heritage preservation during contingency operations. Forward personnel are finding that the capability for analyzing the heritage landscape is critical during planning for forward operating base expansion, for understanding indigenous water systems, for predicting and understanding potential property disputes, and for establishing common ground with host nation ministries including but not limited to culture, information, and tourism. The opportunity to continue and develop the partnership with AIA offers the ability to offer extremely valuable regional expertise, instruction, and educational tools to the DoD economically and efficiently. Examples of direct support to military operations by CCHCAG members over the past year include development of detailed maps of *karez*, the ancient water systems of Afghanistan to deploying personnel, cooperation in developing of even more detailed *karez* research at the University of Kansas, development of a cultural heritage map for Afghanistan in partnership with AIA, historical cultural briefings at the Environmental *Shura* in Kabul in February, bi-lingual historical cultural and GIS briefings at the 2010 Jordan conference, arranging a meeting of members of the Tenth Mountain Division Command Group with the Afghan Deputy Minister of Culture, offer of reach back expertise for Forward Operating

Base expansion planning, and teaching imagery analysis skills to deploying personnel for better cultural and sacred place site identification.

Contributions of this nature are essential for successful counter insurgency operations, and continued support of these activities offer not just value added for Afghanistan but also offer substantive models for the future and for application in the other Combatant Commands. VFAC SUP SALV Bahrain has requested archaeological shoreline maps for the Arabian Gulf for Oil Spill and Training planning in order to implement site avoidance measures, and Army War College PKSOI has requested heritage planning maps for the south of Afghanistan for post atrocity planning to mend the torn fabric of society there while rebuilding cultural identity. Most recently the value of this group was demonstrated by a request for a group member to deploy with the Tenth Mountain Division as a SME for Heritage and Cultural Issues as they took command of ISAF, RC South, in Afghanistan.

Conclusion: 2013 Update

As a result of long-term financial support from the DoD Legacy Resource Management Program—including their support for the “Heritage Forward” project reported on here—the Combatant Command Cultural Heritage Action Group (CCHAG) remains a strong advocacy group for the incorporation of Cultural Property Protection (CPP) training and awareness into policy, doctrine, and training at all levels of the Department of Defense. We are currently continuing our COCOM technical support role by supplying training and awareness products to the U.S. Southern Command and the U.S. Pacific Command and our CCHAG web portal continues to be a signature product where DoD personnel can go that find comprehensive information on Cultural Property Protection and their obligations under the terms of the 1954 Hague Convention.